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21 November 1951

CAREER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Working Group on SELECTION CRITERIA

Minutes of 5th Meeting 20 November 1951 2:00 P.M.

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Present:

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Career Service Committee			

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1. [redacted] Chairman, not being able to be present, [redacted] acted as Chairman for the meeting.

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2. The minutes of the 4th meeting were approved as distributed.

3. The Working Group took up the agenda determined at the last meeting and first considered the references to "A Program...." dated 7 August 1951 which were contained in paragraph 1 of the directive furnished to the Working Group on 26 October 1951 as follows:

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a. paragraph 2 page iii

This reference was discussed in considerable detail and [redacted] agreed to formulate the conclusions that were reached in a 25-50 word statement which would be available for consideration by the Working Group at its next meeting.

b. introduction page x

The Working Group adopted the following statement:  
"The Working Group has reviewed the comments of the Assistant Directors which were overwhelmingly opposed to the concept of an "elite corps" and concurs in the abandonment of that concept. The Working Group further agrees that only those employees who have demonstrated their ability throughout a period of two years' service in the Agency will be considered immediately eligible to participate in the Career Service Program. During the first two years of an employee's service with CIA training, appraisal, and supervision will be directed towards preparing him to participate in the Career Service Program."

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- c. paragraph V pages xii, xiii  
The Working Group adopted the following statement:  
"The concepts contained in this paragraph (i.e. age in relation to grade and testing and assessment as criteria for selection) are rejected by the Working Group and not recommended for adoption as criteria."
- d. section V pages 11-13  
The Working Group agreed that a new criteria (i.e. those contained in the draft paper prepared by [REDACTED] see paragraph 2 of "Minutes of 4th Meeting) would supercede "V. SELECTION OF CAREER CORPS" contained in the 7 August proposal.
- e. appendix I pages 38-51  
The Working Group agreed that a number of matters contained in this reference fell outside of the purview of this Working Group. It was agreed to consider pertinent matters contained in appendix I at the next meeting.
- f. appendix J pages 52-55  
The Working Group adopted the following statement:  
"Testing and assessment should not be considered as mandatory in connection with the determination of the eligibility of an employee to participate in the Career Service Program. Testing and assessment are valid and useful techniques to be used in recruiting new employees and are available for evaluating any employee at any time at the discretion of the appropriate Assistant Director.

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4. The Working Group requested [REDACTED] to provide it with appropriate excerpts from the minutes of the DCI's staff conference with Assistant Directors. It was recognized that various authoritative statements had been made and recorded at these staff meetings and that these statements would be useful in aiding the Working Group to formulate policy.

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5. The draft paper prepared by [REDACTED] concerned with centralization vs. decentralization was discussed and minor corrections were made. This task was not completed and was tabled for further attention at the next meeting.

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6. During the course of the meeting it several times became evident that a top-level decision as to whether there would be several systems for the overt and the covert offices was urgently required since on that decision depended many implementing factors. [REDACTED] was requested to raise this question with the Career Service Committee.

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7. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday,  
27 November 1951 at 2:00 P.M. in [REDACTED]

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8. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

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Dist: [REDACTED]

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